

House File 2176 - Introduced

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BY NUNN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring school employee training and protocols
2 relating to suicide prevention and trauma-informed care.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, Code 2018, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 33. *a.* For purposes of this subsection:

4 (1) "*Postvention*" means the same as defined in section
5 279.70.

6 (2) "*Trauma-informed care*" means the same as defined in
7 section 279.70.

8 *b.* Adopt rules to require school districts to adopt
9 protocols for suicide prevention and postvention and
10 trauma-informed care. The protocols shall be based on
11 nationally recognized best practices.

12 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 279.70 **Suicide prevention and**
13 **trauma-informed care training.**

14 1. For purposes of this section, unless the context
15 otherwise requires:

16 *a.* "*Postvention*" means the provision of crisis intervention,
17 support, and assistance for those affected by a suicide or
18 suicide attempt to prevent further risk of suicide.

19 *b.* "*Trauma-informed care*" means services that are based
20 on an understanding of the vulnerabilities and triggers of
21 individuals who have experienced trauma, recognize the role
22 trauma has played in the lives of those individuals, recognize
23 the presence and onset of trauma symptoms, are supportive of
24 trauma recovery, and avoid further traumatization.

25 2. By July 1, 2019, the board of directors of a school
26 district shall integrate annual, evidence-based training on
27 suicide prevention and postvention for all school personnel
28 who hold a license, certificate, authorization, or statement
29 of recognition issued by the board of educational examiners
30 and who have regular contact with students in grades six
31 through twelve into the school district's comprehensive
32 school improvement plan submitted pursuant to section 256.7,
33 subsection 21. The content of the training shall be based on
34 nationally recognized best practices.

35 3. By July 1, 2019, the board of directors of a school

1 district shall integrate annual, evidence-based training
2 on trauma-informed care for all school personnel who hold
3 a license, certificate, authorization, or statement of
4 recognition issued by the board of educational examiners
5 and who have regular contact with students in kindergarten
6 through grade twelve into the school district's comprehensive
7 school improvement plan submitted pursuant to section 256.7,
8 subsection 21. The content of the training shall be based on
9 nationally recognized best practices.

10 Sec. 3. ADMINISTRATIVE RULES. The state board of education
11 shall submit a notice of intended action to the administrative
12 rules coordinator and the administrative code editor pursuant
13 to section 17A.4, subsection 1, not later than December 12,
14 2018, for the adoption of rules required by section 256.7,
15 subsection 33, as enacted by this Act. The board shall adopt
16 such rules not later than July 1, 2019.

17 Sec. 4. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection
18 3, shall not apply to this Act.

19 EXPLANATION

20 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
21 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

22 This bill requires the board of directors of a school
23 district to integrate annual, evidence-based training on
24 suicide prevention for all school personnel who hold a license,
25 certificate, authorization, or statement of recognition
26 issued by the board of educational examiners and who have
27 regular contact with students in grades 6 through 12 into the
28 school district's comprehensive school improvement plan by
29 July 1, 2019. The content of the training shall be based on
30 nationally recognized best practices. The bill provides a
31 similar requirement for training on trauma-informed care for
32 school personnel who have regular contact with students in
33 kindergarten through grade 12.

34 The bill requires the department of education to adopt rules
35 to require school districts to adopt protocols for suicide

1 prevention and postvention and trauma-informed care based on
2 nationally recognized best practices. The bill requires the
3 board to submit a notice of intended action to begin such
4 rulemaking no later than December 12, 2018, and to adopt such
5 rules not later than July 1, 2019.

6 The bill defines "trauma-informed care" as services that are
7 based on an understanding of the vulnerabilities and triggers
8 of individuals who have experienced trauma, recognize the role
9 trauma has played in the lives of those individuals, recognize
10 the presence and onset of trauma symptoms, are supportive of
11 trauma recovery, and avoid further traumatization. The bill
12 defines "postvention" as the provision of crisis intervention,
13 support, and assistance for those affected by a suicide or
14 suicide attempt to prevent further risk of suicide.

15 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
16 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,
17 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from
18 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of
19 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,
20 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state
21 mandate included in the bill.